

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

This invention relates to an implantable medical device to treat a patient. The implantable device can be an orthopedic device such as a spinal implant including, but not restricted to, a disc or nucleus pulposus prosthesis, a spinal rod assembly, or a bone fixation plate. The orthopedic device can be formed to include a metal matrix composite that provides enhanced wear and diagnostic imaging techniques. In other forms, the present invention provides an implantable medical device that includes a porous metal matrix composite that can deliver a therapeutic composition to a patient. In still other forms, the present invention provides an implantable electrical device or lead formed to include a metal matrix composite that provides lower polarization and interfacial impedance and allows enhanced sensing of the physiological signals.